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wild plants and the cultivation of the useful ones. The second part bears the date 1875 and is more special in its nature, being in fact a popular flora of Scandinavia. The volumes are interesting throughout. We shall hope to transfer to our General Notes some of Professor Schübeler's statements respecting the remarkable climate of Norway, and the occurrence of Southern plants near the Arctic circle.

BOTANISCHER JAHRESBERICHT.[1] — Annual Report on Botany, by Dr. Just, of Carlsruhe. The second year of this valuable compendium is an improvement on the first. The several departments of botany are conducted by different men, chiefly specialists, and in a careful manner. The articles which have appeared in the journals, and proceedings of societies, are given in abstract. Besides these there are very good critiques of the botanical books for the year (1874). The Year-Book is of great value to all botanists who wish to keep up with the published researches, and who have not time to study all the journals. It must be said, moreover, that the range of periodicals from which Dr. Just and his associates have selected their notes is very wide, comprising many chemical and agricultural journals, which are not likely ordinarily to fall in a botanist's way. Technologists and chemists have had their annuals for several years, and it is high time that botanists should fare as well. Botanists ought to congratulate themselves that the task has fallen into such good hands, and they should see to it that the enterprise is sustained.

KNEELAND'S AMERICAN IN ICELAND.[2] — This little book, issued about the same time as Judge Caton's Summer in Norway, affords fresh evidence that American tourists are taking more interest than formerly in Northern Europe, particularly the Scandinavian peninsula and the islands to the westward, the homes of the Northmen. Dr. Kneeland's book is an intelligent and by no means dull account of Iceland, preceded by pleasant sketches of the Orkney, Shetland, and Faroe Islands, as seen during a voyage of a few weeks in 1874, the year of the thousandth anniversary of the settlement of Iceland by the Northmen.

Our readers will examine with much interest the chapter on the Physical Characters of Iceland, in which the author adopts the view that Iceland was uplifted towards the end of the glacial epoch, and that this explains the traces of a milder climate in Greenland before the advent of man. At present the geographical position of Iceland is therefore very important, as "with Jan Meyen and Spitzbergen it forms a natural barrier against the desolation of Northern Europe by the ice from Arctic regions; should Iceland disappear beneath the waters, Nor-

[1] Berlin: Gebrüder Bornträger, 1875, 1876.

[2] *An American in Iceland.* An Account of its Scenery, People, and History. With a Description of its Millennial Celebration in August, 1874; with Notes on the Orkney, Shetland, and Faroe Islands, and the Great Eruption of 1874. By SAMUEL KNEELAND. With Map and Nineteen Illustrations. Boston: Lockwood, Brooks, & Co. 1876. 12mo, pp. 326. $2.50.